ined that the Members of Parliament being the representatives of the people when appointed on such an important Commission could play very useful and constructive role, and that they should not be deprived of the membership of the Commission on purely technical grounds. In view of this and in view of the fact that the Ministers at the Centre as well as in the States have already been exempted from incurring disqualification for being chosen, or for being Members of parliament *vide* Clause (a) of Section 3 of the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, the Committee has recommended that the Schedule to the aforesaid Act should be suitably amended expeditiously so as to prevent the persons holding the office of Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission from incurring disqualification for being chosen, or for being a Member of Parliament. The Government is anxious to give effect to the aforesaid recommendation. Incidentally, I may also mention here that the Government is examining the other recommendations of the Joint Committee along with the earlier reports. It is my earnest hope that the Bill will receive unanimous support from all sections of the House.

Madam, I now commend the Bill for the considerations of the House.

*The question was proposed.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have requested the Members who have given their names not to speak. They have agreed. Therefore, I put the motion to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Act, 1959, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.*

*Clause 1, The Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.*

SHRI K. VIJAYA BHASKARA REDDY: Madam, I beg to move:

That the Bill be passed.

*The question was put and the motion was adopted.*

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## STATEMENT BY MINISTER

### Declaration of L.T.T.E. as an unlawful Association

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): Madam,

I rise to inform the House of the decision taken by the Government to declare the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, generally known as LTTE, as an unlawful association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967.

The LTTE had proclaimed its objective as a right to secure self-determination for Tamils ensuring in the process the geographical identity and integrity of the traditional homelands of the Tamils. The objective later came to be popularly known as 'Tamil Eelam' concept. In pursuance of this objective, the LTTE has indulged in several terrorist acts in India.

We have also received information that the LTTE recruited some Tamil youngmen, formed them into an organisation called Tamil National Retrieval Troops, gave them training and weapons in Jaffna and sent them back to India to carry out LTTE's tasks and to work for separation of

[Sshri S. B. Chavan]

Tamil Nadu from India. We are also aware that the activities of LTTE are providing encouragement and inspiration to chauvinistic groups in Tamil Nadu which openly preach secession and engage in unlawful activities. We have also come to know of the links established by LTTE with United Liberation Front of Assam, which already stands declared as an unlawful association. Because of these activities, we are of the view that the larger objective of LTTE goes beyond establishment of Tamil Eelam in North-Eastern parts of Sri Lanka and poses a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our country.

As the Members are aware, the Government of Tamil Nadu has already taken steps to contain the activities of LTTE. Because of these step the activities of LTTE have been curbed to some extent. However, keeping in view the threat that the continued presence of LTTE, in India poses to the security, sovereignty and integrity of India, the Government has taken the decision to declare the LTTE as an unlawful association with immediate effect.

The declaration of LTTE as an unlawful association will strengthen the hands of the State Government and Union Government in containing the activities of LTTE and eliminating the threat posed to our country by this organisation.

**श्री राम नरेश यादव** (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मंत्री जी को इसके लिए बहुत-बहुत बधाई है और सरकार को भी यह कदम जिस तरह से उठाया जा रहा है, पहले से इस तरह की मांग चली आ रही है।

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Madam, I would like to congratulate the Government, the Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister for having taken this long-awaited and much overdue step to ban the LTTE. I must also place on record the tremendous work that has also been done by the Government of Tamil Nadu, where they have done their best over the last one year to contain the activities of the LTTE and they have tried their best to bring down the subversive activities of the LTTE which has been a serious threat to the peace, in my State, and also to the territorial sovereignty and integrity of India. The only hurdle in the way was the active banning of the LTTE and now that that banning has also been done by the Government, I have no doubt that the activities of the LTTE can be curbed so that they no longer pose a threat. Madam, while welcoming this, I would like to ask the Home Minister, what is the precise implication of banning the LTTE? We all know that the LTTE is actually a political party belonging to Sri Lanka and they are not a political party in India. For the ban ning of the LTTE, the grounds which the Home Minister has set out in his statement are that, among other things, apart from posing a threat to the sovereignty and integrity of India, they were encouraging subversive activities within our country, taking away some of our youth, taking them there for training and encouraging them to go back to India to indulge in terrorist activities. We also know that there are many other elements within Tamil Nadu and in other States, certain political parties, certain organizations with certain affiliations, which were helping the LTTE and which still have vital links with the LTTE. So, the whole question of banning only the LTTE has to be looked into, in this context, in two parts.

As for the first part, what is the activity of the LTTE with the people within our country which poses a threat to the security of one country?

Coming to the second part, what is going to happen, after the banning of the LTTE, so far as our relations with Sri Lanka are concerned?

With regard to the first part, the specific clarification that I would like to seek from the honourable Home Minister is this: What steps is the Government going to take to see that action is taken to curb the activities of those political parties

and/or individuals who have had links with the LTTE, who have helped the LTTE and who have been responsible in a major way for the spread of the LTTE activities in Tamil Nadu which directly led to assassination of my late revered leader, Shri Rajiv Gandhi? What steps are going to be taken—I would like to know specifically—to bring these parties also under the umbrella of this? Will those parties also be banned? Will action be taken against those individuals also? I am asking this question because it is completely meaningless to ban the LTTE without taking action against the Indian citizens who have been helping them, who have been helping the LTTE.

The second clarification that I would like to seek from the honourable Home Minister is this: President Premdasa has said that he will not go by the Press reports with regard to the extradition of Pirabhakaran. If the Government, with all responsibility and in all seriousness, has taken the decision to ban the LTTE, when the CBI has filed the charge-sheet, when certain facts are known to the Government of India, when Prabhakaran is the first accused and if this is the statement made in the Parliament of India, then, the only way you can exhibit seriousness, Madam, is by explaining to us, to this House, what steps are going to be taken to see that Prabhakaran is extradited immediately and brought to trial here in this country. Otherwise, the whole banning of the LTTE will become meaningless. So, this is the second clarification that I am specifically seeking from the honourable Home Minister. What steps will be taken to have Pirabhakaran and other leaders of the LTTE extradited to India so that they can undergo trial in this country? Otherwise, any banning of the LTTE would be a completely meaningless process.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY (Pondicherry): Thank you, Madam, for giving me this opportunity.

Madam, I thank the honourable Prime Minister and also the honourable Home Minister for having taken this decision to ban the LTTE and treat it as an unlawful organization.

Madam, the honourable Home Minister gave an assurance on the floor of this House that before the 21st of May a decision would be taken by the Government of India to ban the LTTE. Several Members from our party made the demand and the honourable Member, Shri Ahluwalia, also moved a resolution to that effect. Therefore, it is because of the efforts of these Members that this decision has been taken by the Government of India. It is a welcome decision. This decision is welcomed not only by the Members of this House, but also by the entire people of this country, especially the people of Tamil Nadu who have been facing threats from the LTTE elements for a long time.

Madam, the reason for this has been there. The LTTE itself entered into India to get aid or help from the Government of India, but afterwards turned into an enemy of our country. They started killing our people and looting the houses. They started all sorts of criminal activities in Tamil Nadu when they stayed in Tamil Nadu. When they were in Tamil Nadu, some political parties and some organizations, though they were affiliated to some political parties, called themselves as a revolutionary organization, started organising meetings, seminars, symposia, and started indulging in various other unlawful activities against our country in Tamil Nadu

Though the Tamil Nadu Government took steps to ban those meetings and seminars and symposia, legally they could not do so because these organisations which have been supporting the LTTE have not been banned by the Government of India. Madam, now that the decision has been taken, I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister as to which political parties that have been supporting, aiding and abetting the LTTE that came to the knowledge of the hon. Home Minister through investigations.

DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY (Uttar Pradesh): What is your information?

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: I will give my information later. Secondly, Madam, there are some other organisations—though they are not in the colour of the political parties, but they are calling themselves as revolutionary parties—who have been conducting these meetings and seminars against our Indian Government's interests, against the sovereignty and unity of this country and in support of the LTTE. That is number one.

Secondly, Madam, there are camps in Tamil Nadu for the Sri Lankan refugees, the refugees who have come here because they could not live peacefully there. They wanted asylum in India, and the Government of India wanted to help them. And they are in camps. My information is that most of the LTTE persons are in the camps under the guise of refugees. The Government of India should make combing operations and they should identify the persons who are LTTE people. And they should be immediately booked, and action should be taken against them because they are mingling with the other people in the camps. (*Time-bell*) Madam, I will finish within two minutes.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have got 17 names.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: They are mingling with the other people who are the genuine refugees. Therefore, these people should be identified by the Government.

Then, Madam, the hon. Home Minister, in his statement, said that the LTTE had links with the ULFA activists. Madam, our information is that they had links not only with the ULFA activists, but also with the JKLF organisation, with the Andhra Naxalites and even with the Punjam militants. That was the information which we have received. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister whether the information that we received is correct or not. What action is the Government taking in this regard?

Madam, in the morning also, I raised this issue before the House. On 3rd of this month, on the Tamil Nadu—Pondicherry border which is a castal area, near Karaikkal, a large quantity of arms and ammunition and petrol and diesel and also iron bars used for the purpose of bombs have been recovered by the Tamil Nadu Police. And these activities have been continuing in a clandestine manner with the help of some vested interests, people who want to get benefit out of these activities in the coastal areas. Therefore, I would like to urge upon the hon. Home Minister to find out as to which are those persons and organisations who have been helping them for the purpose of smuggling the weapons and also petrol and diesel.

Finally, Madam, while welcoming the decision of the Government of India, I want to point out that there is another demand from the Members. Yesterday I raised this issue in this House. The prime accused are Prabhakaran and Pottu Amman, Accused Nos. 1 and 2, in our beloved leader Shri Rajiv Gandhi's assassination case. And those two persons are at large. The Government of Sri Lanka clearly stated that if the Indian Government makes a request, they will be able to assist them and that these two persons can be extradited to India. Madam, this issue was raised in this House, and the hon. Minister of State for External Affairs has given a categorical answer that they will take steps in this direction. What is the present stage of the action which this Government is taking for the purpose of extradition of those two prime accused who are involved in our beloved leader Rajiv Gandhi's assassination case? I would like to know the reaction of the hon. Minister on this. Finally, while banning the LTTE, the job is not going to be over. Threatening letters are coming to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and also to the Governor of Tamil Nadu. The Chief Minister went on record saying that her life is in danger. Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Home Minister whether the Government of India is providing adequate protection, SPG cover for the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and also the Governor, because the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is facing the challenge of LTTE which is a militant organisation, which has got so-

phisticated weapons. Therefore, I would like to know whether the Government of India is providing adequate security to them.

With these words, I conclude.

डा. रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : [उपसभापति जी, माननीय गृह मंत्री जी ने हमारे नेता राजीव गांधी, जो लिट्टे के आतंकवादियों के शिकार हुए थे, उनकी मृत्यु के, शहीद होने के, एक साल पूरे होने के पहले इस अवांछित संगठन को बैन करने का जो निर्णय लिया है, उसके लिए मैं उन्हें बधाई देता हूं। माननीय गृह मंत्री जी को, सरकार को, और प्रधान मंत्री जी को बधाई देता हूं। जब राजीव गांधी की हत्या की गई थी, उस समय गृह मंत्री जी वेदारण्यम् और अन्य स्थानों पर जहां पर भारी मात्रा में जमीन के अंदर और समुद्र के तट पर अग्नेयास्त्र, बहुत से विध्वंसक पदार्थ छिपाये गये थे, वहां गये थे। लिट्टे के पास अस्त्र-शस्त्र हैं। ये स्मगलिंग का काम भी करते हैं, यह सिद्ध हो चुका है। इनका संबंध अल्फा के साथ, पंजाब के आतंकवादियों के साथ, नार्थ ईस्टर्न स्टेट्स में जो मिलिटेन्ट फोर्सेस हैं, उनके साथ इनके व्यापक संबंध हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त सुपर पावर्स के रिसोर्सेज, पूरी सहायता, गाइडेन्स, प्रोवोकेशन और कमिटमेंट उनके पीछे है। किस तरह से उन नाजायज हथियारों को और सामग्री को, किस रूप में प्लान करें कि उनसे वापस लिया जाय और उसकी घोषणा हो कि कहां-कहां से ये सब चीजें इन को मिलती रही हैं। लिट्टे में आत्म-हत्या करने की प्रवृत्ति, उनके वालन्टियर्स में रही है, चाहे सिवरासन हो, चाहे शोभा हो, सब ने पोटेशियम साइनाइट खा कर आत्म हत्या कर ली। कितने क्रूर ढंग से यह आर्गेनाइजेशन काम कर रहा है, यह उसकी मिसाल है। इनको मैनस्ट्रीम में लाने के लिए सरकार क्या कर रही है और जैसा हमारे पूर्व सदस्यों ने कहा, यह सिद्ध हो चुका है कि श्रीलंका की गवर्नमेंट ने स्पष्ट कह दिया है कि प्रभाकरण और उसके सहयोगी, जो राजीव गांधी की हत्या में शामिल थे, उनको भारत को सौंपने के लिए तैयार हैं। उनको कब तक इस देश में बुलाया जाएगा और धरती के कानून के अनुसार उनको कब तक प्रोसेक्यूट किया जाएगा, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूं।

इसके अलावा और भी बहुत से संगठन हैं जो साम्प्रदायिकता के नाम पर देश को तोड़ने का काम कर सकते हैं। उनके कृत्य राष्ट्रीय नहीं है, बल्कि अराष्ट्रीय कृत्य उनके खुले आम होते हैं, वे हिंसक आतंकवाद फैलाते हैं। उनमें बजरंग दल है, आर. एस. एस. है, शिव सेना है, आदम सेना है, जमाते इस्लामी है और विश्व हिन्दू परिषद और दुर्गावाहिनी आदि और भी आर्गेनाजेशंस है, उनको आप कब तक बैन करेंगे जिससे इस राष्ट्र में शांति, सद्भावना बढ़े और आतंकवाद का वातावरण समाप्त हो?

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Uttar Pradesh): Madam Deputy Chairman, I would begin by saying that the Home Minister need not have made out in his statement that the LTTE is the only organisation demanding self-determination for the Tamils. The formation of Tamil Eelam all Tamils support and, in my opinion, the LTTE has demaged the cause of Tamil Eelam and has not furthered it.

I would say that this step which has come after much persuasion, after much pressure exerted in Parliament, has come almost a year after the assassination of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi. Actually, it is a matter of great privilege for us. When we took over power, when Mr. Chandra Shekhar became the Prime Minister, we were shocked to find that in Coimbatore, there was an open grenade factory which was manufacturing grenades for the LTTE. Another factory was unearthed, which was openly stitching clothes, uniforms, for the LTTE. There was a communication centre, a Sophisticated communication centre, in Trichy. All this was going on. Reports suggested that all this was going on all through the National Front rule. This was known to the Government, but the Government did little.

[Shri Subramanian Swamy]

It was left, ultimately, to the Chandra Shekhar Government to correct this gross neglect, by dismissing the then State Government. By doing so, we were able to bring this menace of LTTE under control. Today, we have to pursue it to see that the situation improves, day by day.

Having said this, I would also like to point out that the matter is not over with the banning. Mr. Prabhakaran and his associates are squarely responsible for the murder of Mr. Rajiv Gandhi. Mr. Rajiv Gandhi's murder is not just a murder of a former Prime Minister. It is, in my opinion, a challenge to our national sovereignty. It is also an insult to our national self-respect, that a foreign terrorist organisation could come across to India, in an election period, and assassinate Mr. Rajiv Gandhi, a very tall leader, a man who was the Prime Minister of the country. Therefore, to redeem our national honour and to show that we are safeguarding our national soverignty, Mr. Prabhakaran and his associates have to be brought to trial in India. For that, Government must take immediate steps. There are many methods of doing this. The Government should not be impotent. The Government should not plead its inability by saying that Prabhakaran is hinding here, or, is hiding there. It is a Government of 90 crore people. It is a Government of 900 million people. We must devise ways. If the Sri Lankan Government does not co-operate, we have the Libyan example, where the United States has made the Security Council impose sanctions on Libya for its failure to turn over the two people whom they consider, terrorists, whom they say had bombed a Pan American plane.

Therefore, this matter should be made clear. In fact, statements coming out from Sri Lanka suggest that our Government had not asked the Sri Lankan Government to extradite Prabhakaran. This is the first thing they must do. If the Sri Lankan Government is slow, or, it is not co-operating, we must devise other methods. There are other ways of doing it. I would suggest that one of the first things which we must do immediately is to announce a reward of Rs. 5 crores for anyone who helps in the capture of Prabhakaran. He is a criminal. Therefore, we should leave no stone unturned. We have to find out. I know that there are methods of doing it. During my time in the Government, I came to realise that our Government had good contacts with two close associates of Mr. Prabhakaran. We must motivate such people to help us and see that Prabhakaran is brought to trial.

Further, I would say that we should also take steps to see that those people who propogate the cause of the LTTE in India—whether they are in Tamil Nadu or in any other State; it does not matter—are also brought to book. I have been, frequently, to Tamil Nadu. I know that there are people who are still extolling the cause of the LTTE and its leader, Prabhakaran, as if he is some national hero for them. They have forgotten the Indian leaders. They are, on the soil of Tamil Nadu, propagating the cause of Mr. Prabhakaran. These people are also criminals. They are also traitors. As a consequence to this ban, the Government should take steps to see that these people are also brought to book, under the TADA, or, the National Security Act.

6.00 P.M.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN (West Bengal): Madam, we have banned the dangerous activities being conducted by LTTE on the Indian soil. Particularly, after the assassination of the former Prime Minister, the steps that has been taken by the Government was called for. There was a demand from several quarters also for taking this step, but with the banning of LTTE alone I do not think the task is complete.